

6.6 & 6.7 - Operations with Vectors in R2 and R3

Tuesday, October 28, 2025 7:22 PM

1. Find a single vector equivalent to each of the following

a. $-\frac{1}{2}(4, -6, 8) + \frac{3}{2}(4, -6, 8) = (-2, 3, -4) + (6, -9, 12) = (4, -6, 8)$

b. $5(9\hat{i} - 7\hat{j}) - 5(-9\hat{i} + 7\hat{k}) = 45\hat{i} - 35\hat{j} + 45\hat{i} - 35\hat{k} = 90\hat{i} - 35\hat{j} - 35\hat{k}$

c. If $\vec{a} = (2, -1, 4)$ and $\vec{b} = 3\hat{i} + 8\hat{j} - 6\hat{k}$ find $2\vec{a} - \vec{b}$ and its magnitude. $= 3\sqrt{33}$
 $= (1, -10, 14)$

b. $-90\hat{i} - 35\hat{j} - 35\hat{k}$

2. If $A(1, -5, 2)$ and $B(-3, 4, 4)$ are opposite vertices of parallelogram OAPB and O is the origin, find the coordinates of P. Show calculations in both component form and unit vector form.

Component form

$$\vec{OP} = \vec{OA} + \vec{OB} = (1, -5, 2) + (-3, 4, 4) = (-2, -1, 6)$$

Unit vector form

$$= -2\hat{i} - \hat{j} + 6\hat{k}$$

3. Using vectors, demonstrate that the three points $A(5, -1)$, $B(-3, 4)$ and $C(13, -6)$ are collinear.

$\vec{AB} = (-3-5, 4-(-1)) = (-8, 5)$

$\vec{AC} = (13-5, -6-(-1)) = (8, -5)$

$\vec{AC} = -1 \cdot \vec{AB}$

when we move them they are on the same line. scalar multiple

Since $\vec{AB} = k\vec{AC}$ (scalar multiple) they are collinear.

$\vec{u} = \frac{\vec{u}}{|\vec{u}|}$

4. Find the components of the unit vector with the direction opposite to $\vec{XY}$ where $X(7, 4, -2)$ and $Y(1, 2, 1)$.

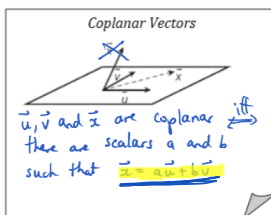
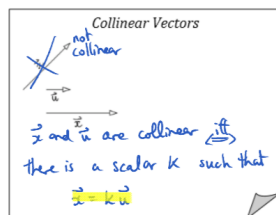
$\vec{XY} = (1-7, 2-4, 1-(-2)) = (-6, -2, 3)$

$|\vec{XY}| = \sqrt{(-6)^2 + (-2)^2 + 3^2} = \sqrt{49} = 7$

$\frac{1}{7}(-6, -2, 3)$

Linear combinations are expressions $a\vec{u} + b\vec{v}$ where a, b are scalars and $\vec{u}, \vec{v}$ are vectors ex. $2\hat{i} - 3\hat{j}$ is a linear combination of $\hat{i} = (1, 0)$ $\hat{j} = (0, 1)$

CONSIDER: Which $\vec{x}$ cannot be written in terms of $\vec{u}$ and/or $\vec{v}$?



Spanning sets: smallest # of vectors that can generate any other vector in the given space.

Spanning set for $\mathbb{R}^1$: (1D) - any vector will span a LINE

Spanning set for $\mathbb{R}^2$: (2D) - any two non-collinear vectors will span a plane

Spanning set for $\mathbb{R}^3$: (3D) - any three non-coplanar vectors will span a space

1. Explain what two vectors can span then determine if the following $\vec{x}$ and $\vec{u}$ are collinear.

a. $\vec{x} = 4\hat{i} - 8\hat{j} = (4, -8)$
 $\vec{u} = 6\hat{i} - 12\hat{j} = (6, -12)$
 $\vec{x} = \frac{2}{3}\vec{u}$
 Yes

b. $\vec{x} = (10, -8, 3)$
 $\vec{u} = (5, -4, 6)$
 Not collinear

Not collinear
 Because they are not scalar multiple

of each other
Span a plane in R^3

a) span a line in R^2

2. Explain what three vectors can span then determine if the following three vectors are coplanar.

$$\vec{u} = (3, -1, 4)$$

R^3

$$\vec{u} = (1, 3, 2)$$

a. $\vec{v} = (6, -4, -8)$

b. $\vec{v} = (1, -1, 1)$

$$\vec{w} = (7, -3, 4)$$

$$\vec{w} = (5, 1, -4)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{u} &= a\vec{v} + b\vec{w} \quad \checkmark \\ (3, -1, 4) &= a(6, -4, -8) + b(7, -3, 4) \\ (3, -1, 4) &= (6a, -4a, -8a) + (7b, -3b, 4b) \\ 3 &= 6a + 7b \quad 0 + 2 \cdot 3b = 14b - 9b \quad -1 = -4a - 3(2/5) \\ -1 &= -4a - 3b \quad 3 = 5b \quad .44 \\ 4 &= -8a + 4b \quad 3 = 5b \\ \text{check } 4 &= -8(-\frac{1}{5}) + 4(\frac{3}{5}) \quad \frac{3}{5} = b \quad \frac{4}{3} = -4a \\ &\quad \checkmark \quad 4 \quad a = -\frac{1}{5} \end{aligned}$$

Not coplanar.

Therefore, they are coplanar

